

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of tracking time spent at a location by a person, the method comprising:

(a) providing at least one machine-readable location identification code at the location to provide location information for the location;

(b) providing the person with a mobile reader for reading the at least one machine-readable location identification code at the location, the mobile reader comprising a wireless transmitter;

(c) on arrival of the person at the location, reading a first-read machine-readable location identification code in the at least one machine-readable location identification code using the mobile reader and determining an arrival time based on when the first-read machine-readable location identification code is read;

(d) immediately after the arrival time is determined in step (c), initiating transmission of the first-read machine-readable location identification code and the arrival time to a remote server using the wireless transmitter, the remote server comprising a processing module and a storage medium for storing service information data;

(e) adding the arrival time to the service information data using the processing module;

~~(d)~~ (f) on departure of the person from the location, reading a last-read machine-readable location identification code in the at least one machine-

readable location identification code using the reader and determining a departure time based on when the last-read machine-readable location identification code is read; and,

(g) immediately after the departure time is determined in step (f), initiating transmission of the last-read machine readable location identification code and the departure time to the remote server using the wireless transmitter; and

(e) (h) adding the departure time to the service information data comprising the arrival time and the departure time using the processing module to retrievably store both the departure time and the arrival time in the storage module such that the arrival time and the departure are independently retrievable from the storage module.

2. (Currently Amended) The method as defined in claim 1 wherein

step (a) comprises providing a plurality of machine-readable location identification codes distributed throughout a plurality of locations wherein for each location in the plurality of locations, the plurality of machine-readable location identification codes includes at least one associated machine-readable location identification code provided at the location for providing location information for the location; and,

step ~~(d)~~ (e) further comprises determining recording the location information from the first-read machine-readable location identification code and adding the location information determined from the first-read machine-readable location identification code to the ~~such that~~ service information data using the processing module ~~further comprises the location information; and~~

step (h) further comprises determining the location information from the last-read machine readable location identification code and adding the location

information determined from the last-read machine readable location
identification code to the service information data using the processing module .

3. (Currently Amended) The method as defined in claim 2

further comprising inputting identification information for the person into
the mobile reader identifying the person,

wherein step (d) further comprises initiating transmission of the
identification information for the person to the remote server using the wireless
transmitter;

_____ step (e) further comprises adding the storing identification information
for the person to such that the service information data using the processing
module further comprises the identification information for the person;

_____ step (g) further comprises initiating transmission of the identification
information for the person to the remote server using the wireless transmitter;
and

_____ step (h) further comprises adding the identification information for the
person to the service information data using the processing module.

4. (Original) The method as defined in claim 3 wherein the service information data is searchable by search parameters comprising at least one of the identification information for the person, the location information and a selected time interval including at least one of the arrival time and the departure time.

5. (Original) The method as defined in claim 4 further comprising selectably providing at least one of

a shift report for the person over a selected time interval, wherein the shift report comprises each location in the plurality of locations the person has

visited during the selected time interval and, for each location, an associated time period spent at the location; and,

a location report for the location over a selected time interval, wherein the location report comprises each person that has visited the location during the selected time interval and a time spent by that person at the location.

6. (Currently Amended) The method as defined in claim 1 wherein

step (a) comprises providing at least one machine-readable task identifier at the location, wherein an associated machine-readable location identification code and associated task identification information are determinable from the at least one machine-readable task identifier, the associated machine-readable location identification code being included in the at least one machine-readable location identification code;

step (c) comprises reading the first-read machine-readable location identification code from a first-read machine-readable task identifier in the at least one machine-readable task identifier on arrival of the person at the location;

step (d) comprises initiating transmission of the first-read machine-readable task identifier to the remote server using the wireless transmitter;

step (e) further comprises determining the task identification information from the first-read machine readable task identifier, and adding the task identification information determined from the first-read machine readable task identifier to the service information data using the processing module;

step (f) comprises reading the last-read machine-readable location identification code from a last-read machine-readable task identifier in the at least one machine-readable task identifier on departure of the person from the location; and,

step (g) comprises initiating transmission of the last-read machine readable task identifier to the remote server using the wireless transmitter;

step (h) further comprises determining the task identification information from the last-read machine readable task identifier, and adding the task identification information determined from the last-read machine readable task identifier to the service information data using the processing module
~~comprises the associated task identification information for each machine-readable task identifier in the at least one machine-readable task identifier at the location.~~

7. (Currently Amended) The method as defined in claim 6 wherein

the at least one machine-readable task identifier at the location comprises a plurality of machine-readable task identifiers at the location, each of the plurality of machine-readable task identifiers being associated with a different task;

step (e) further comprises adding a task start time to the service information data using the processing module, the task start time being equal to the arrival time;

step (g) further comprises adding a task completion time to the service information data using the processing module, the task completion time being equal to the departure time.

~~step (c) comprises~~

~~(i) reading the first read machine-readable location identification code from a first machine-readable task identifier in the plurality of machine-readable task identifiers on arrival of the person at the location, and,~~

~~(ii) reading a subsequent machine-readable task identifier in the plurality of machine-readable task identifiers on commencing an associated~~

~~task identified by the associated task information readable from the subsequent machine-readable task identifier;~~

~~_____ the service information comprises, for each machine-readable task identifier in the plurality of machine-readable task identifiers, the associated task information, an associated task start time and an associated task completion time.~~

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The method as defined in claim 1 wherein

the mobile reader further comprises

a time-keeper for determining the arrival time and the departure time; and

a memory for storing the arrival time and the departure time[[.]];

such that step (d) (c) further comprises storing the arrival time service information data in the memory; and

step (f) further comprises storing the departure time in the memory.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Original) The method as defined in claim 6 wherein the at least one machine-readable task identifier comprises at least one barcode.

12. (Original) The method as defined in claim 1 wherein the at least one machine-readable location identification code comprises a single code only such

that the first-read machine-readable location identification code and the last-read machine-readable location identification code are identical.

13. (Currently Amended) A system for tracking time spent at a location by a person, the system comprising:

at least one machine-readable location identification code provided at the location to provide location information for the location;

a mobile reader for reading the at least one machine-readable location identification code at the location, the mobile reader comprising:

a time keeper for determining an arrival time when a first-read machine-readable location identification code in the at least one machine-readable location identification code is read and a departure time when a last-read machine-readable location identification code in the at least one machine-readable location identification code is read; and

a wireless transmitter for initiating transmission of the arrival time and the first-read machine readable location identification code immediately after the determination of the arrival time, and initiating transmission of the departure time and the last-read machine readable location identification code immediately after the determination of the departure time; and

a remote server comprising

a storage medium for storing recording-service information
data;

an input and output module for receiving the arrival time and the departure time from the wireless transmitter; and

a processing module for adding the arrival time and the departure time to the service information data to retrievably store both the arrival

time and the departure time on the storage medium such that the arrival time and the departure are independently retrievable from the storage medium.

14. (Currently Amended) The system as defined in claim 13 further comprising a plurality of machine-readable location identification codes distributed throughout a plurality of locations wherein for each location in the plurality of locations, the plurality of machine-readable location identification codes includes an associated at least one machine-readable location identification code provided at the location for providing location information for the location, wherein the processing module is further configured to determine the location information from the first-read machine readable location identification code and the last-read machine readable location identification code and add the location information determined from the first-read and last-read machine readable location identification codes to the service information data further comprises the location information, and the storage medium is operable to store the location information.

15. (Currently Amended) The system as defined in claim 14 wherein
the mobile reader further comprising comprises a personal
identification module means for providing receiving identification information for the person; wherein

the wireless transmitter is further configured to, immediately after determining the arrival time, initiate transmission of the identification information for the person, and immediately after determining the departure time, initiate transmission of the information for the person; and

the processing module is further configured to add the identification information for the person to the service information data the identification information, and the storage medium is operable to store identification information.

16. (Currently Amended) The system as defined in claim 15 wherein the remote server further comprising comprises a searching module for searching the service information data using search parameters including at least one of the identification information for the person, the location information and a selected time interval including at least one of the arrival time and the departure time.

17. (Currently Amended) The system as defined in claim 16 wherein the remote server further comprising comprises a report generation module means for generating at least one of

a shift report for the person over a selected time interval, wherein the shift report comprises each location in the plurality of locations the person has visited during the selected time interval and, for each location, an associated time period spent at the location; and,

a location report for the location over a selected time interval, wherein the location report comprises each person that has visited the location during the selected time interval and a time spent by that person at the location.

18. (Currently Amended) The system as defined in claim 13 wherein

the at least one machine-readable location identification code is provided by at least one machine-readable task identifier at the location;

the mobile reader is operable to read the at least one first-read machine-readable location identification code and associated task identification information from a first-read the at least one machine-readable task identifier, and the last-read machine-readable location identification code and associated task identification information from a last-read machine readable task identifier;

the wireless transmitter is further configured to, immediately after determining the arrival time, initiate transmission of the first-read machine readable task identifier, and immediately after determining the departure time, initiate transmission of the last-read machine readable task identifier, and

the processing module is further configured to determine the task identification information from the first-read and last-read machine readable task identifiers, and add the task identification information determined from the first-read and last-read machine readable task identifiers to the service information data

~~the service information data comprises the associated task identification information for each machine-readable task identifier in the at least one machine-readable task identifier at the location.~~

19. (Currently Amended) The system as defined in claim 18 wherein

the at least one machine-readable task identifier at the location comprises a plurality of machine-readable task identifiers at the location, each of the plurality of machine-readable task identifiers being associated with a different task; and

the processing module is further configured to add a task start time and a task completion time to the service information data, the task start time being equal to the arrival time, the task completion time being equal to the departure time.

~~the time-keeper is operable to determine (i) the arrival time to be when the first-read machine-readable location identification code is first read from a first machine-readable task identifier in the plurality of machine-readable task identifiers, (ii) an associated task start time for each machine-readable task identifier to be when the machine-readable task identifier is first read, and (iii) an associated task completion time for each machine-readable task identifier to be~~

~~at least one of when, after the machine-readable task identifier is first read, the machine-readable task identifier is next read and another machine-readable task identifier is read; and, the service information comprises, for each machine-readable task identifier in the plurality of machine-readable task identifiers, the associated task information, an associated task start time and an associated task completion time.~~

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) The system as defined in claim 13 wherein the mobile reader further comprises ~~a time-keeper for determining the arrival time and the departure time; and,~~ a memory for storing the arrival time and the departure time.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Original) The system as defined in claim 18 wherein the at least one machine-readable task identifier is at least one barcode.

24. (Original) The system as defined in claim 13 wherein the at least one machine-readable location identification code comprises a single code only, such that the first-read machine-readable location identification code and the last-read machine-readable location core are identical.

25. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for use on a computer system to track the time spent at a location by a person, the computer program product comprising:

a recording medium;

service information data stored on the recording medium; and

means recorded on the medium for instructing the computer system to perform the steps of:

wirelessly receiving service information data from a person;
the first service information data comprising a first-read machine readable
location identification code and an arrival time from a mobile reader; at least one
pair of matching entries, the at least one pair of matching entries comprising an
arrival entry and a departure entry, the arrival entry comprising a first read
location code and the departure entry comprising a second read location code,

determining the location information based on the first-read
machine readable location identification code and the second read location
code;

adding the arrival time and the location information
determined from the first-read machine readable location identification code to
the service information data;

wirelessly receiving a last-read machine readable location
identification code and a departure time from the mobile reader;

determining location information based on the last-read
machine readable location identification code; and

adding the departure time and the last-read machine
readable location identification code to the service information data to retrievably
store both the arrival time and the departure time on the recording medium such
that the arrival time and the departure time are independently retrievable from the
recording medium

determining an arrival time from the arrival entry; and,

determining a departure time from the departure entry.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) The computer program product as defined in claim 25 wherein the service information data comprises identification information for the person, the means recorded on the medium being further operable to instruct the computer system to provide a report generation means for generating at least one of

a shift report for the person over a selected time interval, wherein the shift report comprises each location in a the plurality of locations the person has visited during the selected time interval and, for each location, an associated time period spent at the location; and,

a location report for the location over a selected time interval, wherein the location report comprises each person that has visited the location during the selected time interval and a time spent by that person at the location.

28. (New) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein

initiating transmission of the first-read machine-readable location identification code and the arrival time to a remote server comprises transmitting the first-read machine-readable location identification code and the arrival time to the remote server; and

initiating transmission of the last-read machine-readable location identification code and the departure time to a remote server comprises transmitting the last-read machine-readable location identification code and the arrival time to the remote server.

29. (New) The system as defined in claim 13, wherein

initiating transmission of the first-read machine-readable location identification code and the arrival time to the remote server comprises transmitting the first-read machine-readable location identification code and the arrival time to the remote server; and

initiating transmission of the last-read machine-readable location identification code and the departure time to the remote server comprises transmitting the last-read machine-readable location identification code and the arrival time to the remote server.

30. (New) The method as defined in claim 1, further comprising

upon receiving the arrival time at the remote server, determining a first receipt time; and

generating an alert when the difference between the arrival time and the first receipt time is greater than a predetermined threshold.

31. (New) The system as defined in claim 1, wherein

the remote server further comprises a time module for determining a first receipt time upon receiving the arrival time; and

the processing module is further configured to generate an alert when the difference between the arrival time and the first receipt time is greater than a predetermined threshold.